

REDEEMER UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LIBRARY

Redeemer University College

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Great is God's Faithfulness



“As we look back, we can say with confidence that Redeemer University College has been blessed with an amazing continuity of dedicated staff, generous supporters, gifted students and alumni, and excellent faculty.”

— Dr. Justin Cooper, President

As we marked our 25th anniversary this year, we have been reminded over and over again of the reality of God's great faithfulness. We have seen the hand of the Lord in so many tangible ways—our faithful supporting community, alumni and students, the breakthroughs we have seen with the provincial government and our increasing reputation locally, provincially and even nationally and beyond.

Our supporters have and continue to be the community of faith and vision in which Redeemer is rooted and from which come not only financial backing and but more importantly, moral, prayer, spiritual support and encouragement—that “cloud of witnesses” without which we could not continue our mission. Our talented staff provide a caring and professional context within which Redeemer's faculty can pursue their teaching, learning, scholarship and service, enabling our students to grow and develop.

Redeemer's students come with a variety of gifts and abilities that enrich our campus with a rich tapestry of projects and activities as they provide strong leadership that builds community and spiritual vitality. And as they complete their studies, Redeemer's 2700 alumni have gone on to lives of service across Canada, in 29 US states and 15 other countries. Alumni are active in their local communities and churches as they pursue vocations in a wide range of businesses, social service agencies and

public institutions, as well as a host of ministries.

In addition to these blessings, it is not an overstatement to say that our reputation has been built on our outstanding faculty. The core of any university is its faculty. We know that Redeemer will prosper only if we have professors who share a Biblical vision of a Scripturally directed liberal arts and sciences education that recognizes the comprehensive claims of the Gospel and who reflect this vision in their teaching and scholarship.

Faculty are the ones who have shaped and inspired the hearts, minds and lives of Redeemer's students and alumni. Our faculty also have connections with other colleagues who come to campus and help to enrich the level of discussion, debate and reflection. And Redeemer faculty are known for producing high calibre scholarly and creative work that is widely known and respected and also contributes to our academic reputation.

As we look back, we can say with confidence that Redeemer University College has been blessed with an amazing continuity of dedicated staff, generous supporters, gifted students and alumni, and excellent faculty. This has truly been an exceptional story in Redeemer's development. We praise God for all his gifts, and especially for the capable and committed faculty members He has sent us, and we pray that His Spirit will continue to guide them in making Redeemer's vision and mission come alive to His glory. Great is God's Faithfulness! ■

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Front Cover: Redeemer faculty are as varied as the courses they teach. But whatever they do, including the seemingly incomprehensible notations that Dr. Kyle Spykma, Assistant Professor of Physics and Mathematics is scribbling on the board, is done in the context of a worldview that proclaims Christ's Lordship over their own, and everyone else's discipline. See full story on page 10.

At left: Redeemer students meet some interesting people as well. See page 17.



WHAT'S INSIDE

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Vol 22 No 2



REDEEMER
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Redeemer University College is a Christian liberal arts and science university, offering courses and programs leading to a bachelor's degree. Redeemer serves over 900 students on its 86-acre campus on the outskirts of Hamilton.

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Signs of generosity

The generosity that Redeemer experiences from its support community is expressed in many different ways. As the story above points out, prayer and direct financial support are the most obvious. And in this issue's CentreSpread on pp. 14-15, a number of other Planned Giving tools are identified.

But there are many who support Redeemer, often quietly, by offering goods and service at a reduced rate, or as a gift in kind. A very visible example of this can be seen throughout the campus in the new signs that were installed this spring, both outside (pictured at



left, at the Garner Rd. entrance) throughout the campus and inside the academic building.

These new signs replace ones that have been used over the years, giving a consistent look that will also help visitors find their way around the campus. The signs reflect Redeemer's brand image and are very attractive.

The donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, is pleased that he has the opportunity to support Redeemer in this way; "It is ministry through a sign factory," he says. We thank him and all those who, in so many ways, support Redeemer. ■

Supporting our students

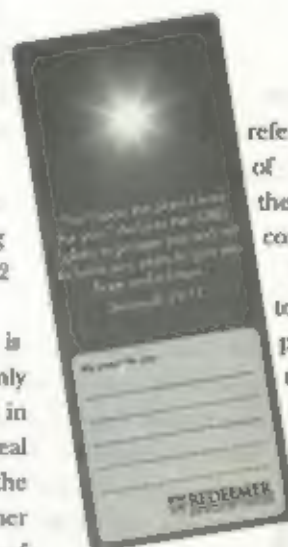
Since 2006, Redeemer's Development Office has been involved in a special campaign to keep the Christian university education offered at Redeemer as affordable as possible. In order to achieve this, the Supporting Our Students campaign was launched to raise \$5.3 million over a 3-year period. The funds raised from the campaign will allow Redeemer to:

- Keep student tuition increases to a minimum
- Enhance student financial aid
- Provide increased and enhanced student programs and services
- Augment our recruitment and promotion activities.

We are pleased to report that to date \$2.1 million has been raised in cash and

pledges. We are very thankful for these positive results. However, the task is far from complete. Redeemer's Development Team will be working vigorously to raise the remaining \$1.2 million.

Financial support for Redeemer is very important; however it is not the only thing that our students need. Included in Redeemer's Annual Spring Mail Appeal is a request for prayer, particularly for the students who will be joining Redeemer for the 2008-09 academic year. Friends of Redeemer are being asked to fill in and return a prayer card that will be displayed on a Prayer Wall. It is our hope that students will be encouraged knowing they are supported by what Dr. Cooper often



refers to as "the cloud of witnesses," namely, the Redeemer support community.

If you would like to participate in this prayer-support initiative, please contact Janet McKenzie, Annual Fund Coordinator, at 905.648.2139 ext. 4493, or by email

jmkenzie@redeemer.ca. Please continue to remember Redeemer's Advancement Office in your prayers as we seek to raise funds to help keep Redeemer affordable for our students. ■

Getting set for the Golf Tournament



Redeemer Foundation will host its 3rd Annual Open Golf Tournament on Wednesday July 23, 2008. Sponsored by Etherington and Vukets, it will be held at Copetown Woods Golf Club. New this year will be a silent auction, which will be held during the banquet.

We invite you to join us for a wonderful day of golf, networking and fun while supporting Christian University education! In the first two years of the Tournament,

(Above): Awaiting the start of the 2007 Tournament
(Below): Even those who work at the Tournament have a great day at the golf course

more than \$70,000 was raised to fund scholarship programs for Redeemer students. Registration is currently underway and the deadline to sign up is June 25. There are also a number of ways to support the tournament through sponsorship. For more information, visit www.redeemer.ca/golf or e-mail golf@redeemer.ca. ■



Foundation case heard at Supreme Court

On Thursday February 28, Redeemer Foundation's Forgivable Loan appeal was considered by the Supreme Court of Canada in Ottawa, with seven Justices present. The Foundation was represented by Jacqueline King and Robert Hayhoe, partners from Miller Thomson LLP, one of Canada's preeminent charitable tax law firms.

This is the final judicial appeal in a case that began with what the Foundation maintains was the unlawful collection of donor information

by the Canada Revenue Agency in 2003. The Foundation successfully challenged the CRA in Ontario Supreme Court, but that ruling was overturned at the Appeals Court. The Foundation sought and was granted leave to appeal the decision to the Supreme Court in 2007.

"My overall sense was that the hearing went well and the Justices were impressed with the Foundation's case."

"My overall sense was that the hearing went well and the Justices were impressed with the Foundation's case," notes Bill van Staaldin, Executive Director of the Redeemer Foundation. The Justices reserved their judgment, and will take time to further consider the case. It could be another six to eight months before their decision is rendered. Says van Staaldin, "We will continue to keep supporters up to date as events unfold." ■

Education Program Receives Certification



The work of Redeemer's Education faculty was instrumental in securing general certification for the Teacher Education program. (l-r): Steve Sider; Catherine Byl, Administrative Assistant to the Department; Assistant Professor Dirk Windhorst; Sessional Lecturer Bernice Sideva; Assistant Professor Mary Ashun. Missing from the photo is Assistant Professor Deani Van Pelt.

distinctly Christian university in Ontario to receive general accreditation from the OCT. Not only does it speak well of the quality of the program, the faculty and the students, it also acknowledges the contribution and influence that faith-based education has in the public realm."

The rigorous accreditation process, which took over six months to complete. "Much of that work," notes Dr. Ellens, "was completed by Dr. Steve Sider, Director of Teacher Education; congratulations are due to him and the entire Education Department for their stellar work throughout this process."

Redeemer's Department of Education has received general accreditation from the Ontario College of Teachers (OCT). The certification is for five years, the maximum period that is available, and builds on the Initial Certification that the Department was granted in 2005.

Dr. Jacob Ellens, Vice President, Academic points out that this is a historic moment: "This is the first Education program in a

Redeemer's Education Program (www.redeemer.ca/academics/departments/education) offers both concurrent and consecutive options. The program graduates between 60-80 students each year, and more than 90% of Redeemer B.Ed graduates have found teaching positions in public, separate and independent schools. This includes full-time contract teaching positions, Long Term Occasional (LTO) placements and supply work. ■

Pre-Engineering at Redeemer

Redeemer has signed an articulation agreement with the Engineering Department at McMaster University to officially recognize various Redeemer courses as equivalent to a variety of first year engineering courses and electives at McMaster. This new Pre-Engineering Track allows students to begin their studies at Redeemer and transfer their courses towards Engineering level 1 at McMaster University.

Much of the work in developing this new program was done by Dr. Derek Schuurman, Assistant Professor of Computer Science at Redeemer. Dr. Schuurman is also an Adjunct Faculty member in the department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at

McMaster. He notes that "the first year engineering program at McMaster includes many courses that Redeemer already offers. This option will be of interest to prospective students interested in getting a first year of solid Christian academic grounding before pursuing further studies in Engineering."

Acceptance into the Engineering program at McMaster is a competitive process and completing courses at Redeemer does not guarantee admission to the Engineering program at McMaster. Prospective students interested in the Pre-Engineering program should contact Dr. Derek Schuurman (dschuur@cs.redeemer.ca) or Recruitment (recruitment@redeemer.ca). ■

Redeemer hosts a range of speakers



From left to right: Dr. Marva J. Dawn, Dr. Eva Olsson, Dr. Stanley Porter

Over this past semester, the Redeemer community has been enriched by lectures and presentations made by a number of visiting scholars and others.

On January 16, Redeemer welcomed internationally renowned theologian, author and educator Dr. Marva J. Dawn as keynote speaker for Redeemer's *World and our Calling* Lecture Series. Drawing on I Corinthians 8:4-6, Dr. Dawn led Chapel and gave two public lectures on the theme, "Vocatio and Cosmos: Our Calling in the World."

The horrors of the Holocaust were remembered on January 29 when Dr. Eva Olsson, a survivor of the Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen concentration camps, gave a moving account of the misery that intolerance, racism and bigotry can create. The evening was sponsored by Redeemer and the Hamilton Branch of the United Nations Association in Canada as part of the UN International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust, and also included reflections by Dr. Al Wolters, Professor of Religion & Theology & Classical Languages at Redeemer. Dr.

Wolters' family hid Jewish families during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands. For those efforts, his father was acclaimed as a Righteous Gentile.

On April 8, Redeemer welcomed Dr. Stanley Porter, President and Dean at McMaster Divinity College in Hamilton, ON, as guest speaker for this year's Ministers' Conference. A prolific writer, Dr. Porter is a respected expert in Greek and New Testament studies throughout the world. He spoke on the theme *The Early Church and Today's Church: Insights from the Book of Acts*, taking material from a forthcoming commentary on Acts that he is writing.

Throughout the year, Redeemer hosts a number of readings by Canadian poets. These readings are sponsored in part by the Canada Council for the Arts; Redeemer works with the Hamilton Poetry Centre to have these artists speak to students and others, both in class and as part of public presentations. This past term, Adam Dickinson, who has written much about our relationship with the environment, and Lee Maracle, a Native Canadian poet from British Columbia, spoke at Redeemer. ■



Royals Take Home Provincial Gold

Redeemer University College's men's indoor soccer team captured the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) Championship at the Ontario Soccer Center in Vaughan on March 25, 2008. This is the first OCAA gold medal ever won by a Redeemer men's varsity team.

At the tournament, the Royals defeated Seneca College and Fleming College (Lindsay) to advance to the semi-finals where they defeated the defending champions from George Brown College 1-0. The gold-medal game, against Humber College, ended in a 1-1 tie. After a scoreless overtime, the Royals, on goals by Jonathan Vanderheiden, Jesse Harrison, Jeremy Stevens and Caell Huyer, won the Championship on penalty kicks.

Individual awards went to Vanderheiden, who was selected as a tournament All-Star, and Nathan Ayer, who was named the tournament's Top Goalender as well as the tournament's Most Valuable Player. ■

Talsma Named All Canadian

Ryan Talsma, a second-year student from Orono, ON, has been named a Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) All-Canadian. This is the first time in Redeemer's 25 years that a Royal has been chosen for this prestigious award. Last year's Ontario Colleges Athletic Association

Continued on next page



Continued from previous page

(OCAA) Rookie of the Year, Ryan was also named to the OCAA's First All-Star Team. Ryan finished this season with an impressive set of statistics:

- 4.46 kills per game (1st in OCAA);
- 5.49 points per game (2nd in OCAA);
- 174 kills (1st in OCAA)
- 57 kills in one match (a new OCAA record);
- 39 points in one match (ties an OCAA record).

Redeemer University College congratulates Ryan on this outstanding accomplishment and looks forward to what lies ahead for him in the years to come. ■

Athletic Department announces new scholarship

The Athletic Department is pleased to announce a new scholarship for the 2008-09 academic year. Funded by Trillium Home Improvements, the scholarship will be awarded to a returning member of the soccer team who demonstrates leadership in athletics, Christian values, dedication to the team and a determination to develop their God-given athletic talents.

The Athletic Department is undertaking several new initiatives to improve the quality of athletic programs at Redeemer. Dave Mantel, Athletic Director, is encouraged by these new developments, which are starting to show some results. He states, "Our newest recruiting efforts have produced a high level of interest in the program already, particularly from other provinces. We look forward to building on these results in coming years." ■

Campus stays busy over summer

Even though the 2007-08 academic year is coming to a close, Redeemer's campus remains a very busy place. The spring and summer is a new season, full of conferences, classes and camps that appeal to people from all ages and who have a variety of different interests. Here is a just a small sample of some of the events that will be held at Redeemer during the summer:

May
24 Graduation

Celebrate the Class of 2008 at Redeemer's 24th Commencement ceremony. The featured speaker will be Dr. Edith Humphrey, William F. Orr Professor of New Testament at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. A very limited number of tickets is available. Please contact the Registrar's Office for more information: 905.648.2139 ext. 4449 or at reg@redeemer.ca

June 30 → Aug 22 Summer Rays Sports Camp.

Since its inception in the Summer of 1992, more than 450 children per year enroll in a one-week multisport camp which emphasizes participation, cooperation, skill development and most of all FUN! To register, please contact Redeemer Athletics at 905.648.2139 ext. 4275 or at athletics@redeemer.ca

June 2 → June 5
The 20th Annual Milk and Honey Summer Festival

This unique vacation offers a week of relaxation as well as cultural and spiritual stimulation. Highlights include guided tours, banquets, informative lectures, fellowship and entertainment. Join Dr. Edward Barkelaar and Dr. Henry Brouwer as they explore the theme "Caring for Creation". On Monday, June 2 a concert "Amis Musicales," featuring Redeemer University College Music Faculty, will be presented. This free concert is open to the public and starts at 7:30 pm in Redeemer's Auditorium. For more information or to register, call 905-648-2139 ext. 4521.

Summer
R.O.A.Y.S.
Sports Camp 2008

Throughout the Summer – Continuing Education

There is a range of courses that are being offered for in-service teachers, including a number of Additional Qualification courses. Redeemer has also partnered with a number of other Christian education organizations to offer a range of other professional development courses for teachers. Contact the Continuing Education Department for more information: 905.648.2139, ext. 4541 or at ConEd@redeemer.ca.

The Heart of the **ACADEMIC COMMUNITY**

By Tim Wolfert

Redeemer's faculty
remain committed to
an integrating and
integral mission

Redeemer University College is a complex organization that depends on many people, including dedicated staff members and a faithful supporting community working together to accomplish its aims and goals. But at the heart of this academic community are the committed faculty members who carry out the mission of the University and make its vision a reality.

For twenty-five years, the mission of Redeemer University College has been "to offer an... education which is Scripturally-directed and explores the relation of faith, learning and living from a Reformed Christian perspective." As a predominantly teaching institution, Redeemer places the faculty, the ones with direct contact with students, on the front line of advancing the institutional mission.

"Much of this task," says Dr. Jacob Ellens, Vice President, Academic, "is accomplished primarily through the development of a Christian worldview as it relates specifically to a professor's discipline, and to academic pursuits in general." He notes that a worldview – the overall perspective from which one sees and interprets the world – can be developed in teaching, research and in the relationships that faculty develop with students, their colleagues and the material.

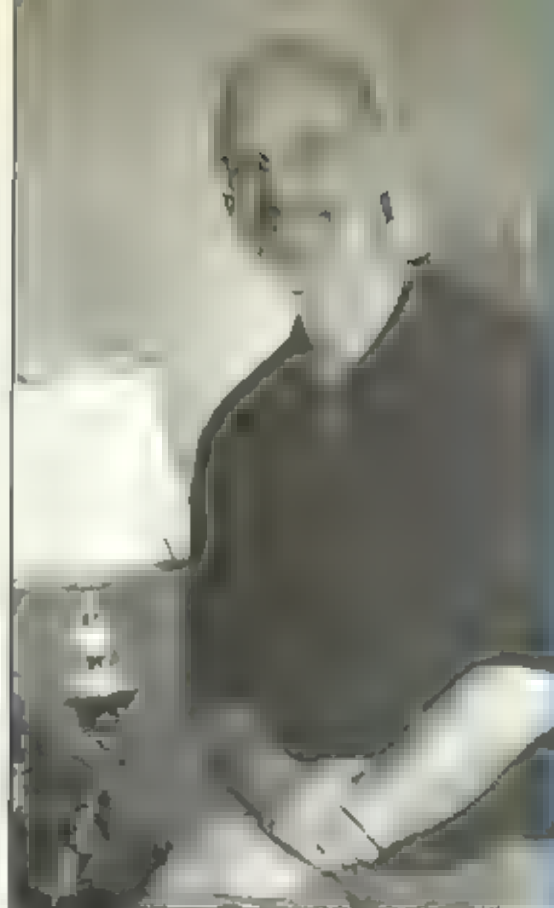
Dr. Ellens cites recent work by Dr. Craig Bartholomew as an example. The H. Evan Runner Professor of Philosophy and Professor of Religion and Theology, Dr. Bartholomew is developing a biblical understanding of "place," the idea of where we belong and how we belong there. In a recent colloquia, Bartholomew described how in

the Old Testament, God's holy place was identified through the land and nation-state of Israel. In the New Testament, however, the notion of "God's place" expands to include the entire cosmos. Today, Christians

.....
"Our goal is to get
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.....

Dr. Jacob Ellens,
Vice President, Academic





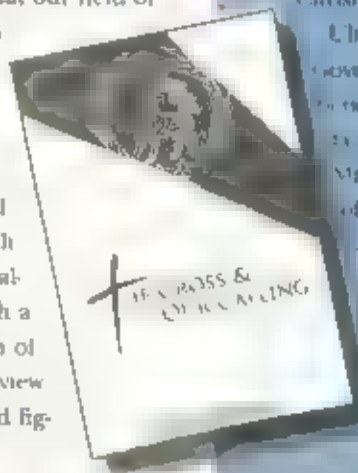
Dr Wayne Norman,
Professor of Psychology,
Emeritus, and Director
of Research and Faculty

are called to be holy explorers, charting all corners of His world.

"Craig's research," says Dr. Ellens, "comes out of a rational understanding of a Reformed worldview that claims *all of life* is under the lordship of Jesus Christ. Faculty and students are reminded that our field of study is as broad as the creation, and we are called to lay claim to all of it for Christ."

There is much about a Reformed Christian worldview that resonates with the historical goals of liberal arts and science universities like Redeemer. Dr. Wayne Norman is Professor of Psychology, Emeritus, and the Director of Research and Faculty Development at Redeemer. "Both [Christian worldview and liberal arts] recognize the totality of the created order," he points out. "There is in each a rejection of the reductionism that is inherent in so much of current academia. Both liberal arts and a Reformed worldview recognize that wisdom is much more than simply facts and figures."

Since the hiring of the original eight faculty members when Redeemer opened in 1982, the University has been blessed with committed faculty members who love Jesus Christ and understand how to relate the claims of His Word to their specific area of academic expertise. But the relative homogeneity of Redeemer's early faculty – seven of the original eight were members of Reformed denominations – has since given way to a much broader range of denominational representation. "Our faculty has become more culturally and ethnically diverse," notes Ellens. "And at the same time, academics in general are becoming more knowledgeable about a Reformed Christian worldview. There is a hunger



The history of the mission

Redeemer's faculty advance the mission of the university through teaching, research and creative endeavours. But who defined what the mission is in the first place?

Much of the original work of drafting, refining and preparing policy statements was done – in some cases even before the University opened, by Dick Kranendonk and Justin Cooper, two of Redeemer's first staff members. President Emeritus Rev. Dr. Henry R. De Boer recalls that the lengthy and thorough discussion of the university's mission statement for the College had to be put to paper. More than 100 hours of effort were invested in the process, and the final document was a product of Christian education."

Ultimately, it is the Board of Governors, representing the Membership, which approved the foundational documents such as the Mission Statement, the Statement of Basis and Principles and the Academic Guidelines (all of which are found in the *Academic Calendar*, available on-line at www.crc.ca).

In 2008, Redeemer's faculty crafted a document that was intended "to give fuller expression of the religious identity and founding vision of Redeemer as Reformed Christian institution." *The Cross and Our Calling: The Identity and Vision of Redeemer University College* builds on the university's founding and official documents. That document is available by clicking on the link below: www.crc.ca/identity or 905-618-2730 x1292.

STORY

The impact that faculty have on students often goes far beyond the content of a particular course. Many faculty have inspired students to pursue for themselves a life marked by that integrating and integral mission. And for an increasing number of alumni that reality also includes life in the academy.

Images asked a number of alumni who held faculty positions to talk about the influence that Redeemer faculty had on them.



I don't remember many of the answers I got from my professors at Redeemer—about history, or theology, or the experience of faith or philosophy. But what they left me that which I'm most thankful for as a professor and a Christian is the curiosity they encouraged in me, the reluctance to accept familiar, put answers, and the habit of asking and pursuing questions

of faith, life, and knowledge that would take a lifetime to begin to answer. An education that feeds a lifetime of faith in that way is more than worth the years of paying off student loans."

Dr. William Kaserberg '87

Associate Professor of History, Director

Mellen Program in Western American Studies, Calvin College

I appreciate the small, intimate setting in which learning takes place at Redeemer, and I'm confident that they personally and directly impact more students than most faculty at other institutions. Along with all that, they did an excellent job of teaching us to think critically, in a scholarly and disciplined way, about new books and ideas. More importantly they taught us how to do this from a faith-based perspective. They gave us the tools with which to approach both challenges to faith and flawed world-views in a confident, intellectually and spiritually sound manner.

Heather DeMar '96

Assistant Professor of History,

State University of New York at Binghamton



Dr. Douglas Loney

Professor of English

Dean of Arts and Foundations

out there for the comprehensive understanding of creation that is found at places like Redeemer, and God is leading to us the faculty that we need."

As chief academic officer, Ellens remains "utterly committed to the hiring and development of a faculty that expresses Redeemer's mission." But that can be challenging at times. The centrality and importance that Redeemer places on the expression of its mission by faculty considerably narrows the field of qualified candidates for any particular opening.

Dr. Douglas Loney, Professor of English and Dean of Arts and Foundations, is involved in many of Redeemer's faculty hirings. "Through the hiring process," he says, "we look for those who embrace a reformational worldview, especially in their discipline. But that's not always readily ap-

parent, or well-developed, given the secular training that most candidates receive, especially in their post-graduate education. So in interviews and documentation, we look for expressions of how their personal faith is articulated in their scholarship; we want to see how they engage worldview issues within their discipline."

The story of how Dr. Charles Hackney came to be appointed is somewhat typical. A psychologist who was raised and trained outside the Reformed tradition, his first year or two at Redeemer was, as he puts it, "... an introduction to a way of thinking that had already indirectly influenced me through the writings of other Christian psychologists, but that I had not examined systematically. I was impressed by the tradition of serious scholarly activity that I saw here—especially the emphasis on examining the foundational beliefs that inform different

theories." Although he may not have been able to express a comprehensive Reformed Christian worldview when he was first interviewed, Dr Hackney did show clearly a strong desire to incorporate his faith and his scholarship. Redeemer's mission simply provided the framework to work out the ideas with which he was already grappling.

How does Redeemer go about the challenge of filling faculty vacancies? "We pray a lot," says Dr Doug Needham, Associate Professor of Psychology and Dean of Social Sciences and Natural Sciences. Depending on the position, Redeemer will also post notices in secular and Christian media outlets and academic journals. The University is also becoming much more pro-active; faculty are using their connections in scholarly associations or with colleagues at other institutions to identify potential candidates. And Redeemer's own alumni, with their expanding network of connections, are becoming an increasingly more valuable resource.

Once new faculty members are appointed by the Board of Governors they are enrolled in their own course at Redeemer, complete with an instructor, reading material and homework assignments. Through a mentoring program, Faculty Development Director Dr Norman works with faculty on the basis for and development of a Christian perspective. That broad approach is made more discipline-specific through the work of individual departments. "Our goal is to get faculty to capture that Reformed emphasis of our mission," says Ellena. "We want to let them see the integral nature of a Reformed worldview and how it applies to their discipline."

Norman also helps faculty, especially those who are new to Redeemer, begin to understand Redeemer's mission and their role in it. Although this is expressed primarily through their teaching, Norman also encourages new faculty to think about their career development. "This is more than a pedagogical exercise; they should be able to articulate, and see a correlation between, Redeemer's mission and their own career goals."

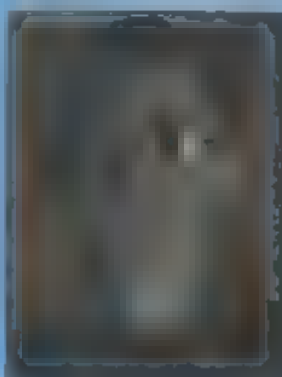
Through readings, workshops and informal events, faculty work out how Redeemer's mission relates to their own scholarship and teaching. They are also required to research and write on this integration. For example, faculty members eligible for re-appointment must prepare a paper that focuses on worldview issues within their discipline. It can be a lot of work, and it's not always easy. "Sometimes we [the Deans] need to wear a counsellor's hat to help new faculty navigate their way through these issues," notes Needham.

But through it all, notes Loney, "God has been good – we always have had the right people come to us." President Cooper agrees: "We see the Lord's provision as He continues to send us a new generation of faculty members to replace those who are retiring and completing their full-time service." Under His care, Redeemer's heart will continue to beat strongly. ■

I came to Redeemer from a small rural Christian community because I was looking for a safe place to have my beliefs affirmed. Instead I was confronted with the scandalous and radical notion that Jesus Christ is sovereign lord of ALL creation, a creation that includes culture. At Redeemer, the lights were switched on for me, and the world I thought I knew became a much bigger and stronger place. Now I confronted a Christ who was anything but safe – but, to borrow a phrase from Lewis – He is good.

Prof. Chris Cudhill '96

Art Chair, Redeemer University College



Most important to me was a perspective on a framework concerning their ministry and our studies that reoriented all my scholarly work. My previous endeavours in philosophy led me to say one that frames work in academia was, "but when made to 'fit home' was that they were

actually living it; in their daily life, they turn a academic theory of integration into a narrative of Christian life and learning into which we were invited to contribute and find our home.

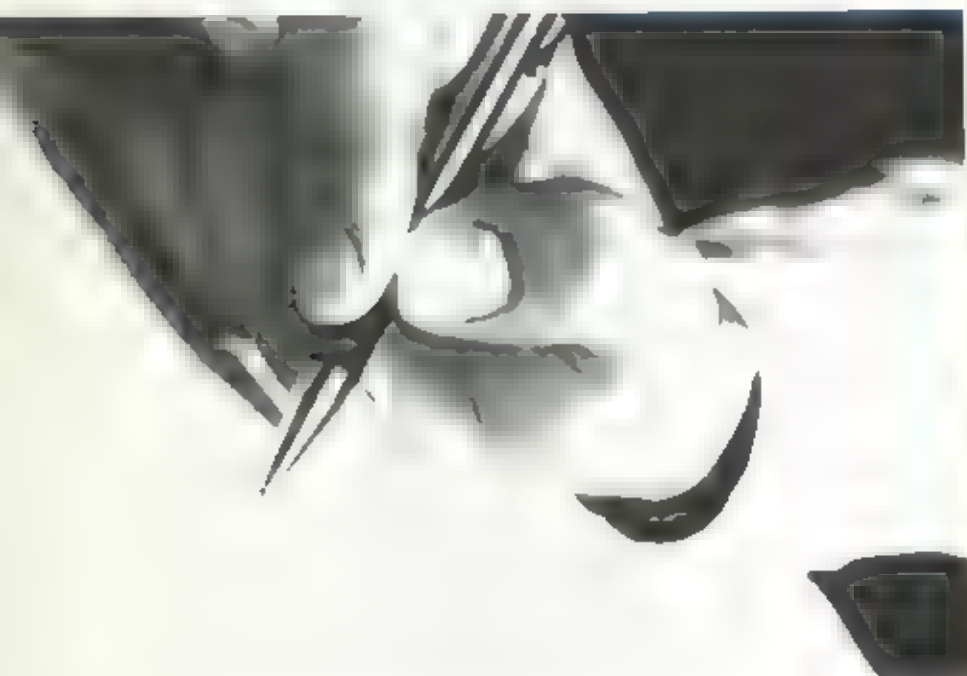
That's the narrative that I seek to continue. I hope they catch a vision of theism as thinking Christians – Christians who can move into their fields of study without being required to leave behind the most important part of who they are.

Dr Paul Brink, '93

Associate Professor of Political Studies,
Gordon College.

Planned Giving at Redeemer University College

Creating a Legacy of Support



For 25 years, Redeemer University College has been blessed by the generosity of a faithful support community. Many of those who have supported Redeemer over its first quarter-century have retired and may not be able to donate funds the way they used to, but they are still looking for opportunities to help advance Redeemer's mission.

Planned Giving, which is a term that covers a broad range of financial tools, provides opportunities to donors, young and old, to maximize their giving potential while providing substantial tax and estate planning benefits.

The Advancement Team at Redeemer is experienced in advising supporters about a range of Planned Giving tools. We work closely with Christian Stewardship Services to promote a God-honouring approach to stewardship. We are also certified by the Canadian Council of Christian Charities as meeting high standards of integrity and accountability. Please contact us if you would like more information on any of the planned giving opportunities that are listed in the side bar to the right. You can also learn more at www.redeemer.ca/support/giving. ■

Planned Giving opportunities

Charitable Bequests

Including charity in a will is one way to leave a legacy. Gifts from the estate can be arranged as specific bequests or through distribution of the residual, often providing tax relief for the estate.

Gifts of Appreciated Securities

As of May 2006, gifts of securities to charity result in the elimination of the capital gains tax of the appreciated value.

Charitable Gift Annuities

A charitable gift annuity allows donors to make a substantial gift for the future while establishing a guaranteed fixed income stream, much of which is tax-free for the rest of their life.

RRSP/RRIF Beneficiary Designation

By leaving RRSP or RRIF residual to charity, donors avoid their investments becoming a tax liability at death. If Redeemer University College is named the beneficiary of the plan, the funds are transferred outside the estate at death, avoiding the probate fee.

Endowments

Present and future gifts can be designated to an endowment fund whereby the capital of the gift remains untouched and only the income - or interest - from the fund is used. Donors receive an immediate tax receipt and through their gift have the opportunity to establish a named scholarship or bursary.

Life Insurance

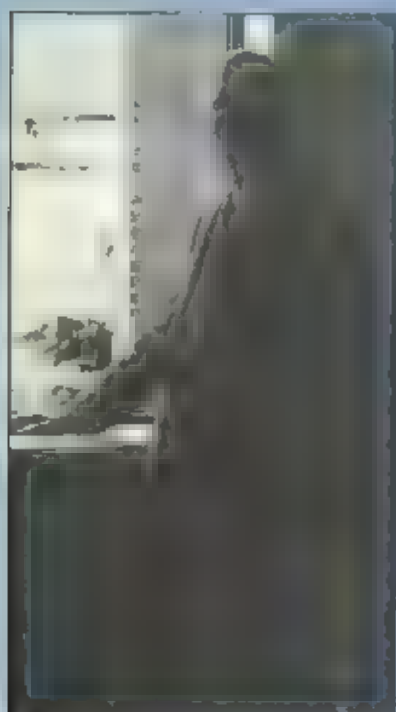
Designating Redeemer University College as the beneficiary of an existing life insurance policy, or transferring ownership of the policy, provides for a significant future gift to the University and for substantial tax savings.

Ben Stegeman Retires

Since Redeemer opened its doors, Ben Stegeman has been the face of fund raising, and friend raising, at Redeemer University College. This May, after 26 years of faithfully seeking support, Ben will begin his well-deserved retirement.

Beyond the millions of dollars that he has helped raise over the years, Ben will also be remembered for his unfailingly positive spirit, even in the face of some of the challenges that Redeemer has faced. He truly has lived out the motto of Redeemer's first capital campaign *Stepping Forward in Faith*.

Redeemer thanks Ben for his service over the years, and also for agreeing to continue, on a part-time basis, his work in the Advancement Department.



The deVries's story

Although they never attended university, Andy and Hanny deVries have long understood the value of Christian education. The retired couple from Whithy, ON have been frequent visitors to Redeemer, and have come to care deeply for Redeemer's mission.

One of the ways they have decided to support Redeemer is by making Redeemer the beneficiary of the proceeds from their life insurance policies. The deVrieses purchased their first life insurance policy when they started a family. A few years later they purchased a second policy to act as mortgage insurance. "It was actually the son of the life insurance agent who sold us the policies that told us about this opportunity," Andy recalls. "We have outlived the original purpose of our insurance, so we started to discuss how it could be better used."

Ben Stegeman, Redeemer's Director of Planned Giving, outlined the options that were available to the deVrieses. Once they decided on their approach, Ben helped them with the paperwork to set up the arrangement.

The deVrieses made a significant gift by transferring ownership of the two policies to Redeemer. Their instructions were to surrender the policies and use the cash for the Supporting our Students Campaign. Redeemer issued a tax receipt for the cash surrender value of the policies, which they can use to reduce their taxable income for up to five years.

Most of all, however, this is an opportunity for the deVrieses to continue to promote Christian education. "Redeemer is a gift from God," notes Hanny. "We're glad that we can help make it more affordable for students." ■

"One of the ways they have decided to support Redeemer is by making Redeemer the beneficiary of the proceeds from their life insurance policies."

"Everyone Has Something to Give"

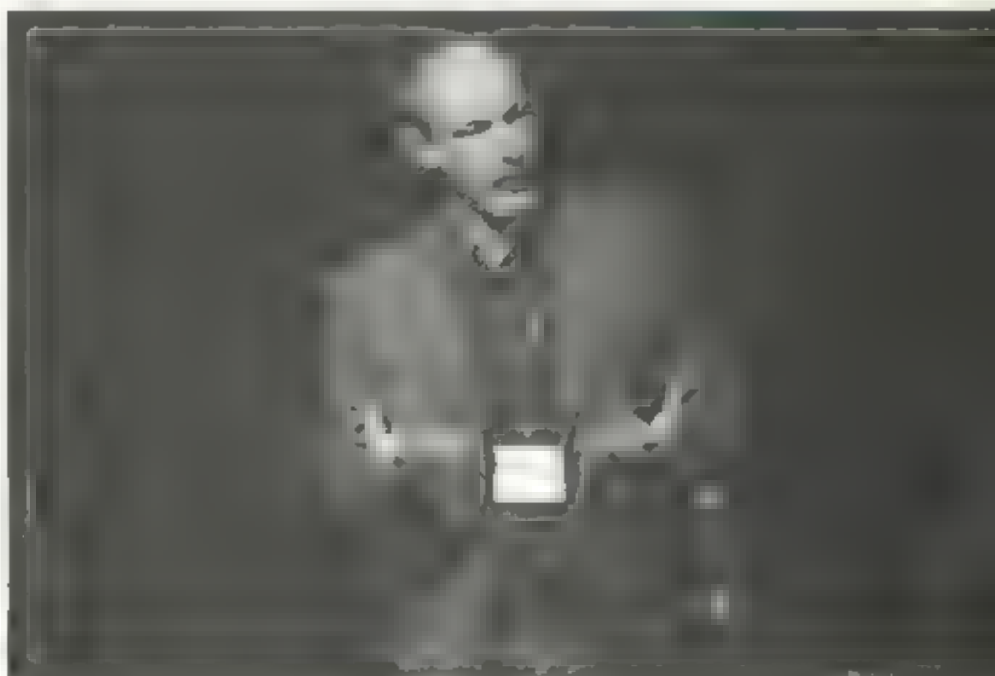
Social Justice Week focuses on what can be done

For the second year Student Life and Redeemer's Social Justice Club hosted week-long series of events in January designed to raise awareness of and address the social injustices that surround us.

Social Justice Week kicked-off during Wednesday morning's Chapel service, which featured Dr. Marva Dawn. In her address, which was part of *The World and our Calling* Lecture Series, Dawn challenged the Redeemer community "to live our calling and be God's servant in the world."

Those themes were expanded upon during Saturday's Faith and Social Justice Conference. Dirk Booy, who has worked in Africa for 20 years and now serves as Vice President of World Vision Canada, University of Toronto Chaplain Dr. Brian Walsh and Dr. Sylvia Keesmaat '86 were featured speakers at the Conference which attracted students from Redeemer and a number of other universities.

One of the week's highlights was a Social Justice Fair held in the Commons. Many students already are working to achieve social justice and the Fair was an opportunity to raise awareness of the needs, both in Hamilton and around the world. "A lot is being ignored and should be told," says Esther Sheddrecht, a first-year student who volunteers with Refugee Ministries, an agency that encourages refugees from the area to connect with each other and to build relationships.



Dirk Booy, Vice-President of World Vision Canada, addressed the Social Justice Conference.

Much of the outreach that Redeemer does in its own community is organized through H2O (Help to Others), a Student Life-directed program. One of H2O's participants, second-year student Amanda Leerlinks, notes that "there is a need in the backyard of our school and we don't always realize it."

But social justice also has a broader focus. The Fair included organizations who were offering opportunities for those interested in being involved with social justice on an international level. Chaplain Svd Helema, staff liaison for the Social Justice Club, headed an initiative to give the gift of clean water to an

African town. Partnering with the group Blood, Water, Mission, the Redeemer community raised funds needed to drill a well, which will reduce the spread of water-borne infections.

All through the week, the community of Redeemer was reminded of the "need to be Christian beacons in an unjust world," as Student Life Coordinator Micah Van Dijk states. "All students, staff and faculty have a chance to explore and participate in issues and needs in the world today as we strive to make our faith an action." ■



Modeling Christ in international relations

Redeemer's Model UN team has active first year

Redeemer has become the first Christian university in Canada to field a Model United Nations Team. Across the world, more than 4000 post-secondary students are active in the Model UN program, which provides students with a better understanding of the inner working of the United Nations and builds skills in diplomacy and compromise.

From left: Almet and MP David Sweet and students Lisa Pranger, Matt Casey, Jordana Benjamin, Greg Dylachoon, Isaac Rolke and Pieter Schalk met with PM Stephen Harper.

First-year student Matthew Casey is the Founder and Secretary-General of the student club, which was organized in September 2007. The team's mandate is to raise awareness about issues that affect the global community and to inspire students to take action. As part of the team, students learn debating skills, political leadership skills and diplomacy, while striving, as Casey says, "to be ambassadors of Christ to all nations, and to carry out God's purpose in international relations."

The team competed in model UN conferences across Ontario, and in March they attended the Canadian International Model United Nations Conference in Ottawa. The trip gave the team the opportunity to work with students from across Canada and the world in identifying how international diplomacy can be used to address issues such as global warming, genocide, nuclear weapons and terrorism.

While in Ottawa the team had lunch in the Parliament's Dining Room with MP David Sweet (whose riding includes Redeemer), other MPs and senators. They also met with Rt. Hon. Prime Minister Stephen Harper and cabinet ministers Stockwell Day and Jim Flaherty. Casey and fellow team member Jordana Benjamin received Honourable mentions for their work at the closing ceremony.

During this inaugural year, the team has focused much of its attention on the issue of genocide. They are a partner of STAND CANADA (Students Taking Action Now: Darfur Canada), which raises awareness of the genocide in Darfur and seeks solutions to the crisis and ways to prevent similar situations from developing elsewhere. The team is planning a conference on genocide for November, 2008. ■

Closing Convocation brings academic year to a close

Although papers and exams still loomed, the 2007-08 academic year came to an official end with Closing Convocation on April 9. In an address based on Proverbs 8:27-31, Dr. Bruce L. Hall, Associate Professor of English, encouraged students to hold fast to Christ as the only true font of wisdom.

Later in the ceremony, Mr. Fred Schat, Dean of Students, announced the recipients of this year's Student Life Award, which is given to student leaders who have a positive influence and are respected by peers, faculty and staff. This year's recipients were Mark De Vos and Laura Stewart.





STUDENT

Reading Week Adventures

Students travel near and far for Spring Break

What exactly do university students do for Reading Week? Vacation in Florida? Ski in Banff? Read? For many Redeemer students, the mid-term break in February allows them the opportunity to participate in off-campus trips.

There were several organized trips this past year, some of which were directly focused on service to others. Close to home a group of 23 students stayed in downtown Hamilton, serving the local community through a variety of service projects with local social service and mission agencies. The trip culminated in the True City Conference, an event hosted by a network of churches that have come together for the purpose of finding out how they can better love the city of Hamilton in the name of Jesus.

Others journeyed a little farther from campus. Second year student Peter

Kranenburg organized a trip for 21 students to Mexico in conjunction with IDEA Ministries. The group traveled to Ciudad Cancun, where they spent five nights in a Christian retreat hotel and another five nights living with families, eating with them, playing with their children and sleeping in hammocks at their houses. All participants experienced the adventures of communication barriers, as the hosts did not speak English. "A lot of us were able to learn first-hand the culture and language," Peter notes. "We built relationships with the Mexican people there as well as stronger relationships with each other. We were made aware of God's blessings and His hand of protection throughout the entire trip."

There were also trips that had more of an educational focus. For the sixth year Assistant Dean of Students Helen Fahlen took a number of students to the Nether-

lands. The group stayed in Amsterdam at Youth With a Mission (YWAM) drop-in youth shelter and from there traveled to different parts of the country, taking in as much as they could see.

Third-year student Angie Poot was part of a group that went to New York City on a trip organized by Chris Cuthall Assistant Professor of Art. They stopped at a number of galleries and museums, including the Museum of Modern Art and the Metropolitan Museum, which Poot called an "unforgettable experience." The group spent time exploring the "city that's full of life and culture" from Times Square to Greenwich Village, Wall Street to Central Park. ■

Redeemer students joined a prayer outreach group in the Dam Square and Central Station in Amsterdam. Sarah Taekema, a first-year student says, "We basically just hung out and asked people if we could pray with them; we got so many different responses and people really opened up! It was one of those great, 'I see God moving' days."

Technology, Robot Uprisings, and the Heart

by Dr. Derek Schuurman

The ancient Greek myth of Prometheus and the introduction of fire warns about the consequences of technology, and even today, it is not uncommon to encounter people who view technology with a certain amount of resigned pessimism. It seems it has become fashionable in postmodern times to view technology with a certain amount of despair. Futurists paint a grim picture of a new world in which powerful and sinister technologies are ubiquitous and intrude into all of life and many recent movies depict scenarios of how technology will turn on us and ultimately become a threat to humanity. Daniel Wilson, a robot researcher, took a humorous look at these fears in a recent book entitled *How To Survive a Robot Uprising: Tips on Defending Yourself Against the Coming Rebellion*. In this book he warns that "any machine could rebel, from a toaster to a Terminator." His book is complete with practical advice on how to survive and evade roaming robot predators.

There are many legitimate concerns about computer technology (robot uprisings notwithstanding). Neil Postman, for example, has argued that technology is not neutral and does in fact change things. He notes that the designers of technology embed their personal or corporate values into technical artifacts, and as a result,

technological objects are biased towards certain uses, which in turn biases a user to use them in a certain way. Technology has a way of changing things.

I don't think the greatest danger of technology will come in the form of a robot uprising or having disgruntled machines enslaving humanity. I believe the greatest danger of technology

"These practices form habits, and habits have a way of shaping our hearts."

is much more subtle: it is in the way some of these changes creep into our lives and affect the way we relate, the way we spend our time, and the way we set our priorities.

Technology has brought changes to the way we work, to our education (including here at Redeemer), to our personal lives, and even to our worship. These practices form habits, and habits have a way of shaping our hearts. We may not need to guard ourselves against a possible robot uprising, but we do need to guard our hearts, for it is the "wellspring of life" (Proverbs 4:23).

Because of the way technology can effect change, some view it with despair, as if somehow it were more fallen than other human pursuits. But there is nothing

inherent in technology that should lead to rejection or despair; although fallen, technology is another part of the latent potential in God's good creation in which we can delight. And, just as in other aspects of creation, we are called to be faithful stewards of the resource, employing technology in responsible ways that answer God's call to love our neighbour and to care for the earth and its creatures. Rather than contributing to fear or despair, technology should contribute towards shalom.

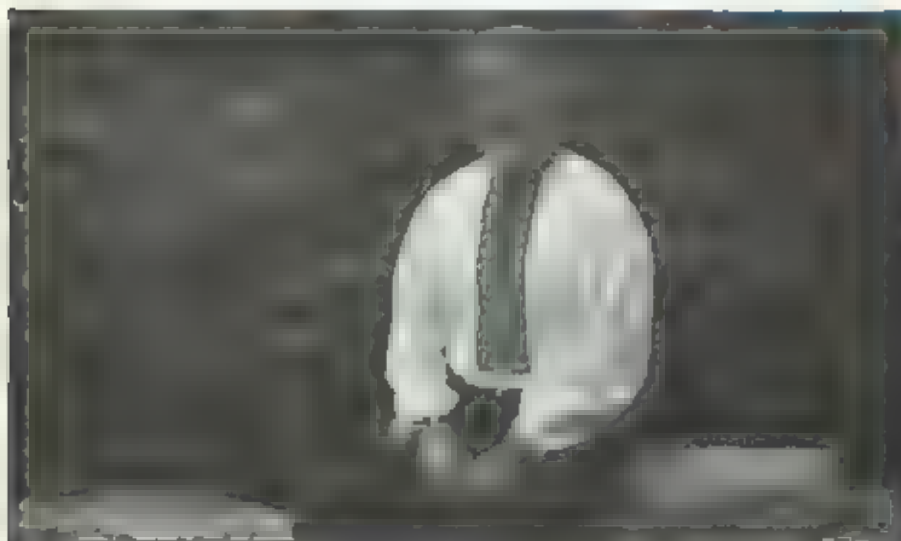
How then shall we live with technology? Do we shape technology or does it shape us? What place does technology take in our society and in our lives? These are the kinds of questions that thoughtful Christians ought to engage. ■

Dr. Schuurman is Assistant Professor of Computer Science at Redeemer.



A Presidential Invitation

Professor shows that religion and politics can mix



Professor of History Dr. James R. Payton, Jr., has had a long interest in and involvement with Eastern Europe. That was recognized in November 2006 when he was elected president of Christians Associated for Relationships with Eastern Europe (CAREE) after serving as its Executive Secretary for the preceding eight years. CAREE (www.caree.info) is an ecumenical organization which has pursued peace, justice, and reconciliation in and for Eastern Europe for nearly fifty years. During that history, CAREE has worked with and for Eastern European churches, Christians, people of other faiths, and those with no faith allegiance.

Last October, the government of the Republic of Macedonia sponsored a world conference on dialogue among religions and civilizations under the theme, "The Contribution of Religion and Culture to Peace, Mutual Respect and Cooperation." Professor Payton was among those invited by the Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski to participate.

Professor Payton noted that the conference brought together leaders of many religious communities around the world, but especially those in Eastern Europe. The sessions were stimulating, and interacting personally with others of different nations and faiths proved beneficial.

Professor Payton also noted that the Macedonian government played a prominent role. The prime minister opened the conference with a remarkable presentation, knowledgeably dealing with political, philosophical, dialogical, and religious issues. Many of the attendees noted that they could not think of a western political leader who could offer such knowledgeable comment and insight on such topics. The prime minister remained through the whole conference; his assistant chaired most of the main sessions. The declaration passed on the final day summarized much of what the conference had offered and included a ringing condemnation of violence perpetrated for supposedly religious purposes. ■

Professor nominated for award is active in exploring popular culture



Assistant Professor of Sociology Dr. Timothy D. Epp was one of 98 semi-finalists in this year's Best Lecturer Competition hosted by TVO, Ontario's public educational media network. As part of the nomination, Jared Dalton, a second-year student, videotaped one of Epp's lectures and submitted a brief biography to the network.

This was the first time that a Redeemer faculty member was nominated for the award. Dr. Epp was astounded that he was nominated. "I thought that I had given a rotten lecture that day," he says. Although he did not advance to the next round, he was grateful for the recognition from his own students, and that he was given the opportunity to participate alongside other faculty members from publicly-funded universities.

What makes Professor Epp's lectures so memorable just may have something to do

with the guests he invites to his class, and field trips he takes his students on. For his Pop Culture class, Epp recently organized — for the second time — a trip to the taping of CBC TV's *The Hour* with George Stroumboulopoulos. He believes this is an ideal way to get his students involved in pop culture. "Pop culture is looking for ways to

"Pop culture is looking for ways to connect to its audience," says Epp, and "we as Christians have a role to engage it.

connect to its audience," says Epp, and "we as Christians have a role to engage it."

Believing in the adage that "it never hurts to ask," Epp has also welcomed a number of pop culture figures to his class. On March 28, independent musician Miranda Stone stopped by to perform a few of her original songs and to talk about ways in which she tries to balance her lifestyle with her profession. Then on April 1, Juno Award winner Stephen Fearing dropped by to discuss some of his experiences as a recording artist over the past 20 years. The visits allow students — and others who are invited to sit in on these classes — to discover first-hand what it is like to be a part of popular culture.

The nomination has generated interest in other media as well: besides being listed on posters that were distributed to universities across Ontario, Professor Epp was also interviewed by the *Hamilton Spectator* and recognized by *Maclean's*. The nomination has also prompted Epp to ensure his lectures measure up. "One student's initiative can have many ramifications," he says. ■

Character and Karate

Are virtuous traits inherent in the martial arts?



As part of PsychChat, a discussion series that allows students and faculty to discuss psychology topics in an informal setting, Dr. Charles Hackney, Assistant Professor of Psychology, examined the connection between martial arts training and character development.

Professor Hackney says the PsychChat "went well, with lively discussion." Among the issues raised were questions of how Christians should participate in martial arts, a discipline that has a strong Taoist influence, and whether self-cultivation in the martial arts might be different from self-cultivation in other settings.

In explaining what draws him to the topic, Hackney points out that "Throughout history, cultures all around the world have held to the idea that there is a difference between being a warrior of excellence and being merely a person who is skilled at violence, and that it is the person's character that makes the difference." Plato's *Republic*

Chinese Buddhism, the Japanese code of bushido, the European code of chivalry and the teachings of Renaissance sword-masters, are all examples of this, and even today martial arts instructors will incorporate "character strengths" into their advertisements.

Part of Hackney's research found that there are five commonly defined virtues — courage, temperance, wisdom, justice and benevolence — that appear in warrior codes around the world and across the centuries.

There is an increased interest in this topic in academic circles because of the rise of the philosophical tradition of "virtue ethics," which tries to answer the question, "What kind of person should I be?" and the positive psychology movement, which argues that people build a life that is spent pursuing that developmental goal. A manuscript that Dr. Hackney has written on the topic has been accepted by a publishing house that is known for scholarly books on the martial arts. ■

Alumni Board and Office active on a number of fronts

The Alumni Board of Directors works with the Alumni Office to identify ways Redeemer alumni can continue to be involved with the Redeemer community, and to support the work of the University. Although much of the actual work in implementing these plans is done by the Alumni Office, the Board is invaluable in providing advice and guidance. At its most recent meeting on April 11, the Board discussed a range of items, some of which are reported below.

We encourage alumni to contact either the Alumni Board (alumniboard@redeemer.ca) or the Alumni Office (alumnioffice@redeemer.ca) if they have any comments or suggestions. We're here to serve you!



The Board will continue to study the report over the next few months. It should be a valuable resource for the Board as it makes plans for this year and beyond.

Finding an alternative for Homecoming

For the last 15 years, the Alumni Association has invited alumni back to campus for Homecoming. The format of this event has varied over the years: sometimes it has been informal, featuring nothing more than a barbeque; other times it has been more involved, with a lecture, banquet and after-dinner entertainment. Concerned about the relative lack of attendance at Homecoming over the last number of years, the Alumni Board undertook a review of the event.

One of the key findings of that review, which involved surveying a number of alumni, was that there was little interest among alumni to return to campus for a broadly-focused "everyone and anyone" event. Alumni are much more interested in getting together with people with whom they share a common interest, such as those with whom they lived, studied, played sports or volunteered.

As a result, the Alumni Board has decided to cancel plans for future Homecoming celebrations. Instead, they are developing ideas to have more focused events, not only on campus, but also in locations off-campus. More information on these activities will be reported in future issues of *Imagis*, and posted on the alumni website; www.redeemer.ca/alumni. ■

Survey Says...

The Alumni Board thanks all those who completed the Alumni Survey earlier this spring. More than 300 alumni responded, representing a return rate of 15.3%. The goal of the survey was to examine alumni attitudes and behaviours so that the Board and the University could develop activities and events that strengthen alumni relations with fellow alumni, students and the entire Redeemer community.

Some of the key findings of the survey include:

- On the whole, alumni are as involved with Redeemer as they want to be; there is no overwhelming sense amongst alumni that they wish to be more involved, and most are satisfied with the number of opportunities that currently exist;
- Those aged 41 and above return to campus most frequently;
- A positive experience as a student increases an alumnus' desire to be involved after leaving Redeemer;
- Certain events and activities – especially those that are more focused on social gatherings – are more likely to attract alumni than others;
- More than 90% of alumni would recommend Redeemer to a prospective student.

Changes on the Alumni Board...

As approved by the Association last year, the Board itself is responsible for appointing new members to serve on the Board. This year, Monica Mudde's three-year term is expiring. Alumni are encouraged to nominate those from the membership who they feel would be well-suited to serve the interests of the Alumni Association to fill Monica's seat on the Board. Nominations can be forwarded to the Alumni Board (alumniboard@redeemer.ca) or the Alumni Office (alumnioffice@redeemer.ca). Nominations should be received by June 1, 2008.

.. And in the Alumni Office

Tim Wulfert, who has worked in the Alumni and Community Relations Office for the last number of years, has accepted a position in the Redeemer's Communications and Marketing Services Department. Redeemer University College is looking for a qualified alumnus to fill the Alumni Director position.

There is a detailed job position posted under the "Working at Redeemer" quick link at www.redeemer.ca. For more information on the position, please contact the Alumni Office.

Awards Program receives huge boost



Kevin Lobert was the 2007-08 Alumni Leadership Award recipient. The \$2000 award was given in recognition of his leadership and extra-curricular contributions.

Between 1986 and 1988, Redeemer students donated \$100 each per year to what would become the Student Recreation Fund. In 1989, those funds - \$98,779 - were donated unconditionally by the Alumni Board as an endowment to fund Redeemer Foundation scholarships. Over the years, the annual proceeds of the Alumni Scholarship Endowment Fund (ASEF) have been used to fund Foundation Leadership and Academic Achievement Scholarships (see chart below).

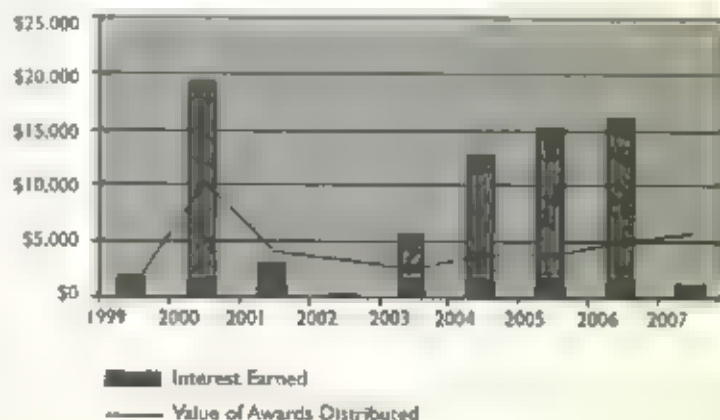
Earlier this spring, the Alumni Board asked the Redeemer Foundation if it would transfer the balance in ASEF - which has now grown to \$120,000 - to the nascent endowment created by alumni gifts to the Redeemer Alumni Association Student Awards Program (RAASAP). At the April 11 Alumni Board meeting, Bill van Staaldunen, Executive Director of the Foundation, announced that the Foundation has agreed to the transfer.

This is great news for the RAASAP initiative. In December, the first appeal to alumni raised more than \$15,000. Of that, \$5,000 was disbursed to students for the 2007-08 academic year, and the bal-

ance used to begin the endowment. The interest generated from this transfer, and the proceeds from future fundraising initiatives, will allow RAASAP to offer more awards each year to students.

That next opportunity for alumni to support students through RAASAP is coming up soon. Please be generous when you receive the letter inviting you to support Redeemer students. ■

Each year, the interest from the Alumni Scholarship Endowment Fund is used to fund awards, leaving the principal intact.



Fighting a global pandemic



David Speicher has been an active and well-traveled participant in the global effort to fight AIDS. After graduating with an honours biology degree from Redeemer in 2004, Speicher went to Australia and obtained an M.Sc. (Honours) in Clinical Microbiology from the Griffith University School of Biomedical Sciences.

Speicher is currently pursuing a Ph.D. at Griffith's School of Dentistry and Oral Health, researching oral cancer in patients with AIDS caused by human herpes virus 8. He intends to compare the prevalence of this virus in Australia, India and Kenya. If research goes as planned, his first trip will be back to India in May for 2-3 months of field work and training of their lab staff.

As part of World AIDS Day on Decem-

ber 1, David was in India and spent the day traveling at an AIDS camp, providing free medical, dental and eye examinations. It was run with a Christian AIDS organization called ACET (AIDS Care, Education and Training) in conjunction with Operation Blessing India.

Although doing work on Australia's Gold Coast in a brand new school (School of Dentistry and Oral Health) and new laboratory might seem ideal, there have been what he calls "many teething problems." There is also the matter of Speicher doing dental research even though he is not a dentist. Still, his research "has been a wonderful experience. It has allowed me to pursue virus research, and work with AIDS patients, things I have always wanted to do." ■

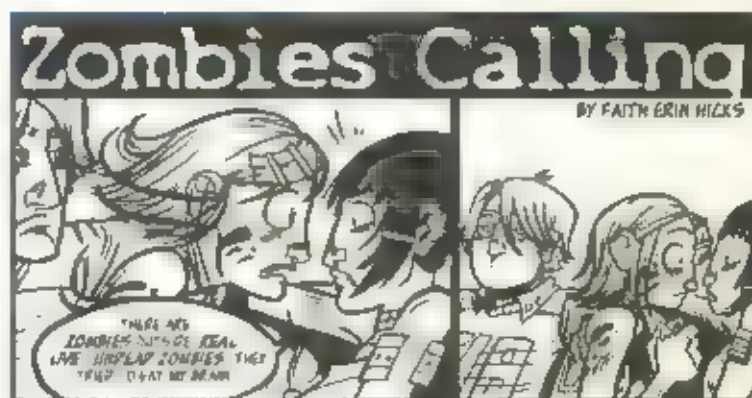
Zombies Attack Redeemer!

Faith Hicks '01 has been nominated for a national award for her graphic novel, *Zombies Calling*. Published this past November by California-based SLG Publishing, *Zombies Calling* is about a zombie invasion of an Ontario university and the things one has to do to survive such an invasion.

In writing the book, Hicks drew from her own experiences (well, for the setting, at least). "I used Redeemer as a model and the villain is a Redeemer professor. I haven't told him yet that he's currently eviling it up in a graphic novel but hopefully he'd find it flattering, not ingenious-worthy. Honestly, I loved his classes, so it isn't a case of revenge for that 'D' he gave me on a paper all those years ago."

After graduating from Redeemer with a B.A. in Art and English, Hicks has spent the last few years making what she calls "surprisingly good use of the degree" through writing and illustrating graphic novels.

Her good use has been noticed: Hicks was recently nominated for a Joe Shuster award as the Outstanding Canadian Comic Book Cartoonist (Writer/Artist). The Joe Shuster Awards (named after the Toronto-born creator of Superman), recognize outstanding



achievements by Canadian creators in the creation and publication of comic books and graphic novels.

Visit www.fatherinphicks.com to learn more about Hicks' work and to read portions of her novel. ■

SHINE ON, MARISA

Marisa Vanderveen: 1974 - 2007

Marisa VanderVeen '98 passed away on December 6, 2007, one year after being diagnosed with breast cancer. As a student, Marisa was able to combine her two loves, sports and piano in a unique program, majoring in both Music and Physical Education before completing her teaching degree. She also excelled at both outside the classroom: as a varsity basketball player, Marisa was selected as an OCAA All-Star; she also served as the pianist for Redeemer's Concert Choir.

After graduation, Marisa married Mendelt Hoekstra ("I got the better end of the deal," he says), and went to teach in British Columbia while Mendelt finished his degree in Music Therapy. After they returned to Ontario, Marisa worked at Calvin Christian School in Dundas, where she taught grade five and accompanied the school choir.

Marisa and Mendelt were blessed with a boy and two girls, Zion (born in 2002), Jacoba (2004) and Zekijah, who was born shortly before Marisa was diagnosed. Although this was understandably a huge shock to her and her family, Marisa did her utmost to fight the disease. She also

displayed the incredible courage to suffer. Much of her story can be found at www.marisavanderveen.wordpress.com.

Through their struggle, notes Mendelt, Marisa bore witness to her valour, but also to her faith: "Thankfully, for Marisa and the others that have gone before her, Jesus had already beaten cancer. This meant that through grace, Marisa won. She was good at that."

Besides Mendelt, Zion, Jacoba and Zekijah, Marisa leaves behind two sisters, Monica and Christy '04, her parents Chris and Anne, and a large number of friends and family. Mendelt says, "We miss Marisa terribly. Our lives are forever changed, forever dented and never the same."

One of the goals now is to preserve and honour the memory of their wife, mother, sister and friend. To have Marisa's legacy remembered in the Redeemer community, a scholarship in Marisa's name is being developed. Those who are interested in being a part of that can e-mail Mendelt@mendelt.hoekstra@gmail.com, or contact the Stewardship Office at Redeemer at stewardship@redeemer.ca.

Personal Touch

>> **Marcella Knibbe Haanstra '06** is pleased to announce her marriage to Steven Haanstra on August 25, 2007. They are now living very happily in a quaint little apartment in the Smithville Area. Email: mknibbe13@hotmail.com

>> **Judith Cooke '00** is delighted to announce that she will be marrying Stephen Lazarus on June 7, 2008. They will reside in Toronto, where Judith works as a psychotherapist at Christian Counselling Services, and Stephen will be pursuing his interest in Public Policy and Justice Issues. Email: stephenandjudith@gmail.com

>> **Heather Sinnema '99** and Jonathan Mousley are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Elisia Lois, born January 21, 2008, in Toronto, ON. Elisia is a sister to son Anthony (age 2). Heather is taking maternity leave from teaching high school French and Jonathan continues to work as economist for the provincial government. Email: tsinnema@yahoo.ca

>> **Ken '88 and Mary Ann VanStarkenburgh Benjamins '88**, along with their children Jantina, Derek, Anna Maria, Johanna and Kennan, have moved to Brantford, ON where Ken has taken up new challenges to pastor at Hope CRC. Mary Ann's health is excellent right now and they are enjoying the blessing of that. Jantina is now attending Redeemer and loving it too! Address: 113 Tutela Heights Rd. Brantford, ON, N3T 1A5. Email: benjamins@distributed.net

>>**Krista Posthumus Ritskes '99** along with her husband Chris, is pleased to announce the arrival of Nathaniel Christopher on September 20, 2007. His big sister, Arianna (age 2), is full of hugs and kisses for him. Krista loves being a stay-at-home mom while running a stamping/scrapbooking business and the church drama team. Chris works as a hospital pharmacist. Address: 1268 Dartmoor St. Oshawa, ON. L1K 2M7. Email: krittikes03@hotmail.com.

>>**Paul '94 and Beth Ann Douma Wiersma '95** are pleased to announce the recent completion of Beth Ann's Masters of Education degree through the University of Western Ontario. Her thesis was entitled, "A History of Lambton College, 1965-1975." Beth Ann and her husband Paul, along with their children Caleb (6) and Celeste (2), still reside in Sarnia, Ontario. Paul works as a vice-principal for the Lambton Kent District School Board while Beth Ann is an English instructor at Lambton College. Email: bawiersma@sympatico.ca.

>>**Kevin '03 and Amy Hordyk Hoogstad '03** are pleased to announce the birth of a healthy daughter Danielle Justine, on November 17, 2007. A little sister for Micah and Rachel (both age 1). Kevin is currently in his first year at Tyndale Seminary in the MDiv. Counselling program, and enjoying it very much. Amy is home full time with the children. Email: kahogstad@hotmail.com.

>>**Jennifer Feddema Cardoso '97** married Jesse Cardoso, in Cairo, Egypt in July of 2006. After a year of waiting for the immigration process Jesse is now safely in Canada and enjoying his

first winter! They are planning to renew their vows among Canadian friends and family on July 25 in Bowmanville. Email: jennfeddema@yahoo.ca.

>>**Kim Aukema Coutts '03** along with her husband Andrew, is pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Bryn Katelyn on April 26, 2007. Email: kim_coutts@yahoo.ca.

>>**Jeffery and Jane Klein-Bondy '05** wish to announce that after a difficult high risk pregnancy, God has blessed them with 2 miracles. Their identical twins, Joshua Ryan James and Caleb Jeffery Daniel were born on Oct. 31, 2007 at McMaster Hospital. Both Mother and Sons are doing very well at home. Email: kklein_bondy@hotmail.com.

>>**Trish Curry Lutter '01** married Jay Lutter on May 20, 2007 in Drayton, Ontario. She is a high school English teacher at Liberty Christian School in Anderson, Indiana. Jay is a technician at Toyota of Muncie, Indiana. They currently reside in Muncie, Indiana.

>>**Ryan '02 and Carlena VanDriel Schipper '03** welcomed their 2nd daughter, Caralee June, into the world on June 3, 2007. A little sister for Laryssa Tonia (Jan. 2006). Carlena is at home with the girls in PEI and Ryan is currently training for the RCMP in Regina, Sask. His prospective graduation date is February 18, 2008, and then they'll be together again!

>>**Peter '96 and Lisa Numan Moelker '95** are pleased to announce the birth of their fifth covenant child, Josiah Paul Moelker, born August 22, 2007. Josiah joins sister Hannah (3), and brothers

David (5), Benjamin (8), and Nathan (10). Address: 6675 County Route 10, Lisbon, New York, 13658. Email: moelker7@hotmail.com.

>>**Alex '00 and Wilfena Ramaker van Donkersgoed '99** were blessed with a daughter, Amaryn Joanne, on November 8, 2007. She is a cheerful sister for Nicholas. w_van_d@hotmail.com.

>>**Alan '94 and Charlene Meijer** were blessed with the birth of a baby boy, Seth Alan, on December 17th. Catherine (8) and Laurel (6) are proud to be big sisters! Charlene stays at home with Seth, while Alan continues in his relatively new position as a soil scientist for North Carolina State University. They'd love to hear from you, and you can email them at meijers11@gmail.com.

Want to contribute to Personal Touch?

Alumni are encouraged to forward their news of interest for publication in the Personal Touch column. Marriages, births, job changes, academic accomplishments — whatever your friends and former classmates might be interested in. Please send an email to alumni@office@redeemer.ca, or contribute through the on-line form at www.redeemer.ca/alumni

Congratulations to the Redeemer Royals

Winners of the 2008 Provincial Men's Indoor Soccer Championship



Head Coach and Athletic Director Dave Mantel notes that this is a watershed moment for Redeemer athletics: "This will be a moment Redeemer will look back on as being the beginning of a new level of expectations for the varsity teams. Redeemer may be the smallest institution in the OCAA, but our athletes now believe that they are able to compete with everyone." For more information about the Championship, please see story on p. 9.

First row (L-R) Pat Miedema, Jesse Harrison, Scott Kerkoff, Eli Peroff, Jeremy Stevens, Joel VanAndel, Adrian Vandervaaert
Back Row (L-R) Coach Tom Sauder, Nathan Ayer, Jon Vanderhelden, Caell Huyer, Jason Slump, Kevin Vanderleeuw, Coach Dave Mantel

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